

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 180495
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-07 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, EFIN, OVIP (HOWE, GEOFFREY), UK

SUBJECT: COOPER-HOWE DISCUSSION

REF: LONDON 12241

1. SHADOW CHANCELLOR SIR GEOFFREY HOWE AND CONSERVATIVE PARTY ECONOMIC ADVISOR ADAM RIDLEY MET WITH UNDER SECRETARY COOPER JULY 28 FOR 45 MINUTE DISCUSSION OF US, UK AND WORLD ECONOMIES, CONSERVATIVE PARTY ECONOMIC POLICIES, PROSPECTS FOR CONSERVATIVE VICTORY IN 1978, UK-EC RELATIONS, AND THE IMF. HOWE'S VIEWS ON UK ECONOMY AND CONSERVATIVE ECONOMIC POLICIES WERE IDENTICAL TO THOSE REPORTED IN LONDON 12241.

2. HOWE STRESSED HIS PARTY'S DESIRE FOR EARLY ELECTIONS, SO THAT CONSERVATIVES WOULD HAVE MAXIMUM OPPORTUNITY TO
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ENSURE THAT OIL REVENUES WERE UTILIZED AS THEY FELT BEST. HE SAID CONSERVATIVES NEEDED A LARGE WIN IN ORDER TO GOVERN STRONGLY, AND FELT THIS POSSIBLE BUT BY NO MEANS CERTAIN. HE SAID UK PUBLIC WAS MORE AWARE OF ECONOMIC PROBLEMS NOW, PARTICULARLY THE NEED TO LOWER DIRECT TAXES AND INCREASE INDIRECT TAXES, WHICH WAS A KEY PART OF CONSERVATIVE ECONOMIC PROGRAM. OTHER AREAS STRESSED BY HOWE WERE NEED

FOR INCREASED DEFENSE EXPENDITURES, STRICT MONETARY DISCIPLINE, AND GENERAL REDUCTION OF GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES AND

OF GOVERNMENT REGULATION OF PRIVATE SECTOR.

3. RIDLEY MET SUBSEQUENTLY WITH DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY VINE FOR MORE DETAILED DISCUSSION OF UK ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL OUTLOOK.

4. DEPARTMENT VERY MUCH APPRECIATES THE TIMELY AND APPROPRIATE REPORTING IN LONDON 12241 AND 12122. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL PARTIES, ECONOMIC PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 02-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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